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The 21st International Grassland Congress / 8th International Rangeland Congress took place in Hohhot, China from June 29 through July 5, 2008.

Proceedings edited by Organizing Committee of 2008 IGC/IRC Conference

Published by Guangdong People's Publishing House

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Reasons of the deterioration of grassland eco-environment in Inner Mongolia pasturing areas

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Key words : Inner Mongolia pasturing areas , grassland eco-environment , overgraze , predatory management , the sustainable development

In the past over twenty years , the drastic deterioration of grassland eco-environment in Inner Mongolia pasturing areas not only endangers the North ecologic safety , but also affects the eco-environment safety of neighboring countries ; therefore , it has aroused great attention of people at home and aboard , especially academic circles .

With the deterioration of grassland eco-environment , reasons of grassland eco-environment deterioration have been become a focus of debate . And there are some theories about deterioration reasons , such as theory of over-grazing , theory of extensive management , theory of drought , theory of population overloading , theory of disappearance of nomadic (change of culture) , theory of traditional nomadic , theory of meadow property rights , theory of goat-eating and theory of development of society and economy . In this all , the theory of over-grazing become the mainstream point and the fundamental basis for rules and policies by government .

By contrast the actual and theoretical animal number of the grasslands in Inner Mongolia for the past fifty years , we can draw a conclusion : the basic reason of the deterioration of grassland eco-environment in Inner Mongolia pasturing areas is "located herd" mode of production by the system of grassland contracted to households and un-herdsman destructive activities such as grass mowing , medical materials digging , unauthorized and wasteful mining ; not overgrazing by herdsman and livestock . Especially , "located herd" mode of production by the system of grassland contracted to households is the basis ; other predatory activities are appeared on the precondition of the policy of grassland contracted to households .

Some pursuing national policies is not fundamental control measures , such as Treatment Project of Sandstorm Sources of Beijing and Tianjin , keeping the balance of grassland and livestock , rest-grazing in spring , forbid-grazing and fencing and population migrating . Government must adapt policy about the pasturing areas . First , by grassland shareholding and national support , establish modern nomadic management , rebuild benign running mechanism of man-land relationship of pasturing areas , raise the overall efficiency of animal husbandry and recover dry grass layer of meadows . Second , issue certificates to certify the right to use the land that collectively owned by herdsman , resolve the main body to original herdsman . Third , the grassland is protected by government legislation . Government must improve the ecological efficiency compensation and control mechanism , prohibit any destructive activities of grassland eco-environment .